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NOTES AND DESCRIPTIONS OF SOME AMERICAN EROTYLIDAE

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During study of the Erotylidae in the Museum collection it has become apparent that there are many undescribed species in the family, and that a goodly number of the described forms are only color phases of valid species. For the most part the erotylids are very attractive insects, and the colors and patterns are rather striking. Unfortunately, there is a great deal of variation in the color pattern, and two extremes in coloration of the same species would seem to indicate two distinct forms. However, when large series are available it becomes a simple matter to bring these extremes together through the natural variation in the color pattern, and it is then possible to see that, though the extremes vary greatly, they actually conform to the general pattern of the species. In addition to variation in the pattern, there is also great variation in the color. Species that have a reddish pattern when mature very often have it yellowish when newly emerged. This has resulted in the description of mature and teneral forms as distinct species.

This contribution contains a review of the genus *Oocyaneus* Hope and a new genus which I am calling *Erotylina*. It is most unfortunate that the long-established name *Megalodacne* Crotch must be replaced by *Zonarius*, while *Zonarius*, as now used, must be replaced by *Alloiotelus* Hope.

The illustrations have been prepared by Mrs. A. W. Froderstrom. They depict the typical form, but in a few cases extremes have been included.

OOCYANUS HOPE

Oocyaneus HOPE, 1841, Rev. Zool., p. 113.

Oocyaneus LACORDAIRE, 1842, Monogr. Erotylidae, p. 194.

Epytus DEJEAN, 1837, Cat. Coleopt., ed. 3, p. 452.

Elongate species, about two and one-half

times as long as wide, usually tapering posteriorly from the humeri, the wing covers with seven or eight rows of punctures. The club of the antennae is pale yellowish, rarely reddish, and the tarsi are always yellowish. The apical segment of both the labial and maxillary palpi are equally enlarged. The size ranges between 6 mm. and 10 mm.

GENOTYPE: *O. cyaneus* Duponchel.

Dejean, in both the second and third editions of his "Catalogue of Coleoptera," listed *violaceus* Lacordaire and *cyaneus* Duponchel as synonyms of *azureus* Dejean, placing them under the generic name *Epytus*. This is the only use of the name *Epytus*, and it is, therefore, unavailable. The name *cyaneus*, although proposed two years before *violaceus*, has been placed as a synonym of the latter.

Up to the present time *Oocyaneus* is known only from the West Indies, and all of the described West Indian species of *Ischyryus* Lacordaire belong to *Oocyaneus*. However, I have seen an undescribed species of *Ischyryus* from the region.

As in other genera, the color pattern of the bicolored species is quite variable, and extremes in color variation look quite different. But if the general scheme of the pattern is considered it is at once obvious that these extremes conform to the general pattern, and they may be properly associated specifically even though typical forms are not available.

Illustrations of the six species in the Museum collection are given and, in connection with the key, should make the determination of the species quite simple.

TABLE OF SPECIES

1. Pronotum wholly black, the femora black or brown except in teneral specimens (in these the basal half

- of the tibiae is darker than the apical half).....2
- Pronotum normally partly reddish or yellowish, if practically all black the apical half of the femora and the tibiae reddish.....4
2. Elytra with sub-basal and preapical yellowish or reddish fasciae (Dominica).....*modestus* Olivier
- Elytra uniformly colored, sometimes obscurely reddish apically (Cuba)...3
3. With steel-blue or violaceous tinge; antennae reddish yellow, the club yellow (Cuba)...*cyaneus* Duponchel
- Black with more or less greenish sheen (Cuba).....*tarsalis* Lacordaire
4. Prothorax reddish with basal and apical black markings.....5
- Prothorax black with broad lateral and sometimes median reddish vittae...6
5. The basal incomplete black band on the pronotum has four broad, anteriorly directed lobes (Cuba, Bahamas, Haiti, Dominica).....
-*flavitarsis* Lacordaire
- The incomplete basal and apical black bands, which vary in width, project toward each other laterally and may be obsolete in the middle (Haiti).....
-*haitensis*, new species
6. Pronotum very broadly reddish only on the anterior half of the sides (Dominica, Haiti).....
-*fulvitarsis* Lacordaire
- Pronotum very broadly reddish laterally on the whole length; normally a broad median reddish vitta (Dominica).....*fulvitarsis* variety

***Oocyaneus haitensis*, new species**

Figure 1

Black with extensive reddish markings, the pronotum reddish with black base and apex. Length, 8 to 9.25 mm.

Head black, the palpi and apical two antennal segments reddish yellow, the antennae castaneous with the basal two segments and the nodes reddish. Front rather finely and thickly punctured. Pronotum reddish, the median three-fifths of the base and half of the apex black, expanded laterally, the surface with numerous fine punctures. Under side of

thorax blackish, the sides of the prothorax very broadly reddish except posteriorly, the middle sometimes more or less reddish. Abdomen reddish, the first segment black. Legs black or brown, the tarsi reddish. Elytra black, with a broad to very broad reddish fascia at the basal fourth that is

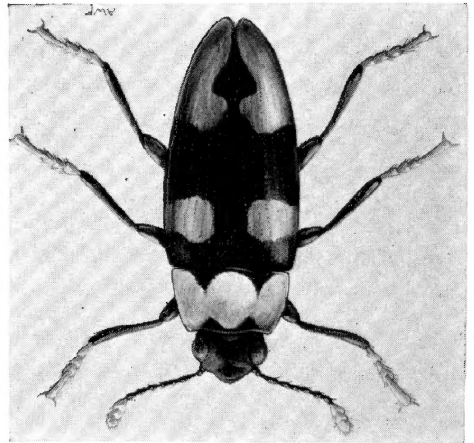


Fig. 1. *Oocyaneus haitensis*.

broadly interrupted at the suture, a usually narrower reddish band at the apical third, narrowly interrupted at the suture, and the reddish apex very broadly connected laterally with the preceding band but sometimes only narrowly so. The epipleura are reddish except on the broad base. Elytra with eight weak striae and seven rows of weak punctures, the eighth stria without punctures.

In the single female, the basal and sub-apical reddish fasciae are broadly united on the middle of each elytron, but the black fascia is indicated by slightly darker ground color. This is an extreme in coloration that probably occurs in both sexes.

Types: Holotype, male, allotype, female, and one male paratype, Northeast Foothills, La Hotte, Haiti, 2000 to 4000 feet, October 10-24, 1934; one male, Tardieu, La Hotte, Haiti, 3000 feet, November 14, 1934, all collected by P. J. Darlington.

The only other known species having a reddish pronotum is *flavitarsis* Lacordaire, but it is at once distinguished by the four

broad black projections on its base. The color in *flavitarsis* is usually reddish yellow. The sides of the pronotum in *haitensis* are generally very narrowly black on about the posterior third.

Oocyaneus flavitarsis Lacordaire

Figure 2

Ischyurus flavitarsis LACORDAIRE, 1842, Monogr. Erotylidae, p. 130.

This species is easily recognized by the color of the pronotum. The elytra have an orange or reddish interrupted fascia at the basal third and a broad one at the apical fourth. The legs are black or brown with reddish or yellowish tarsi, the antennae

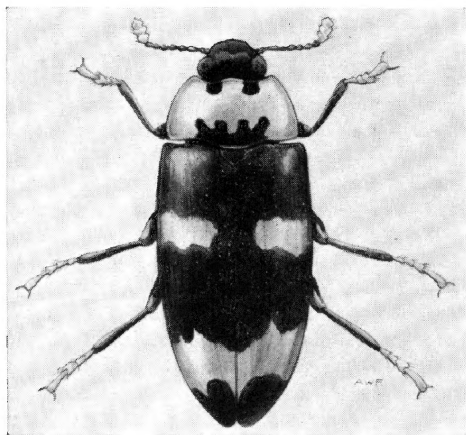


Fig. 2. *Oocyaneus flavitarsis*.

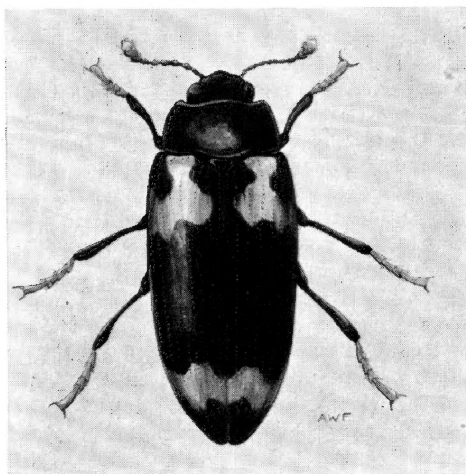


Fig. 3. *Oocyaneus modestus*.

Oocyaneus fulvitarsis Lacordaire

Figures 4, 5

Ischyurus fulvitarsis LACORDAIRE, 1842, Monogr. Erotylidae, p. 129.

Oocyaneus brunnipes KUHN, 1910, Deutsche Ent. Zeitschr., p. 231.

Black with reddish markings. The legs are reddish, the base of the middle femora usually broadly darker, sometimes brown. In the typical form the pronotum is broadly reddish on the sides on the anterior half, the under side broadly reddish on almost the whole length. The elytra have a broad reddish fascia just behind the basal fourth, well separated from the suture,

blackish with the apical segment reddish or yellowish.

I have seen specimens from Cuba, Haiti, Dominican Republic, and the Bahamas.

Oocyaneus modestus Olivier

Figure 3

Ischyurus modestus OLIVIER, 1791, Ent., vol. 5, p. 483 (f.).

Ischyurus modestus LACORDAIRE, 1842, Monogr. Erotylidae, p. 130.

Similar to the preceding species but with the mesonotum wholly black.

The material before me is all from the Dominican Republic; all but one specimen collected by P. J. Darlington.

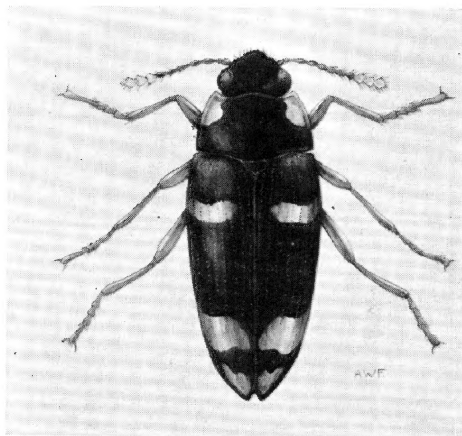


Fig. 4. *Oocyaneus fulvitarsis*.

another at the apical fourth, and the apex broadly reddish, the posterior fascia sometimes connected laterally with the apical spot which is strongly convex in front. The antennae vary in color from reddish to ferruginous with the two apical segments reddish yellow.

In the variety the chief difference is found in the color of the thorax. In this form the sides of the pronotum are broadly reddish on practically the whole length of the upper surface, and there is an incomplete median reddish vitta that is broadened in the middle, rather spindle-shaped, but variable in length and width.

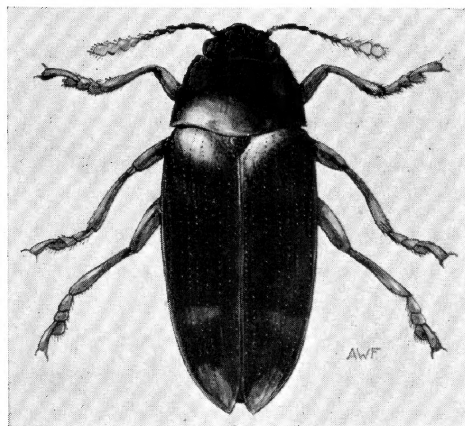


Fig. 5. *Oocymanus fulvitaris*, dark form.

In both forms the anterior reddish fascia on the elytra is very variable. It may be broad or narrow and may sometimes be divided in the middle, or partly so, and may sometimes be absent.

The series before me does not contain any perfect connecting forms of the two varieties, although some specimens of the typical form show indications of the median vitta on the pronotum. However, in view of the great variation in color that occurs in many of the species of this family, it seems certain that connecting forms will be found in abundance, and for this reason I do not consider that varietal names should be employed. I can find no structural characters to separate the two.

O. brunripes Kuhnt is nothing more than a dark form of this species, and examples

before me agree perfectly with the description. The reddish markings on the thorax are only faintly indicated, the sub-basal elytral band is wholly absent, and the reddish apical spots are reduced and darkened. Both legs and antennae are reddish brown. The reduction of the color pattern is shown in the series in the collection.

This species was originally described from Haiti, but all my material (more than 30 specimens) is from the Republic of Dominica, collected by P. J. Darlington.

Oocymanus tarsalis Lacordaire

Figure 6

Ischyryus tarsalis LACORDAIRE, 1842, Monogr. Erotylidae, p. 106.

Oocymanus tarsatus LACORDAIRE, 1842, *op. cit.*, p. 196.

Black with slight greenish reflection, the tarsi pale orange or yellow, the apical three antennal segments yellow.

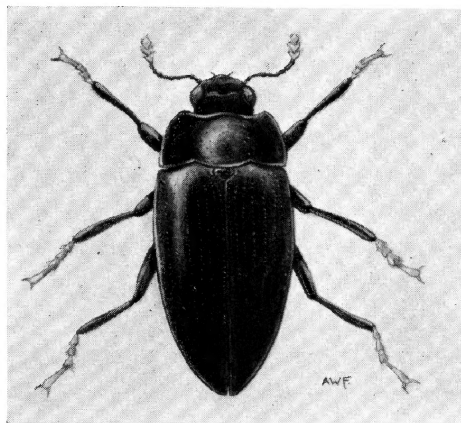


Fig. 6. *Oocymanus tarsalis*.

A very distinct species, originally described from Haiti. Mr. Darlington secured a dozen or more specimens in Cuba.

O. tarsatus of Lacordaire was described from Colombia, but the locality should be considered erroneous. If the locality is correct, it is probable that a different species is concerned. However, no species of *Oocymanus* are known outside the West Indies, so there is good reason to believe that the locality given by Lacordaire was wrong.

Oocyaneus cyaneus Duponchel

Figure 7

Ischyurus cyaneus DUPONCHEL, 1824, Monogr. Gen. Erotylidae, p. 31 (f.).

Ischyurus violaceus STURM, 1826, Cat., p. 82 (f.).

Oocyaneus violaceus LACORDAIRE, 1842, Monogr. Erotylidae, p. 196.

Black, the dorsum more or less strongly violaceous, the tibiae and tarsi reddish yellow, the antennae reddish yellow with the apical three segments usually pale yellow.

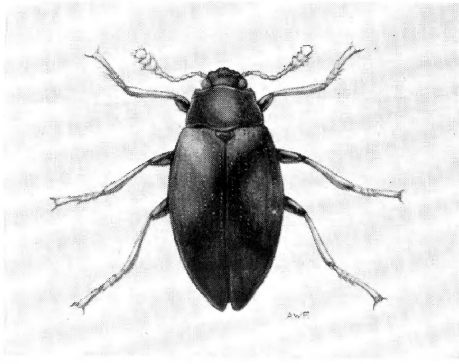


Fig. 7. *Oocyaneus cyaneus*.

Known only from Cuba. The two specimens before me are from Guantanamo.

This is the type of the genus and is easily recognized by its color.

ZONARIUS HOPE

Zonarius HOPE, 1841, Rev. Zool., p. 111.

Megalodacne CROTCH, 1873, Trans. Amer. Ent. Soc., vol. 4, p. 352.

This name has been incorrectly applied since 1842, when Lacordaire applied the name to the group to which Hope had given the name *Alloiotelus*. Hope named *Helops fasciatus* Fabricius the type of *Zonarius*, but Lacordaire considered it to be a *Helops* and at the same time included it in the genus *Dacne* Latreille. The action of Hope is quite clear, and it is, therefore, necessary to alter our conception of the genera which have been known for so long under the two names cited above. The name *Zonarius* should be inserted in existing catalogues of the Coleoptera in place of *Megalodacne*.

ALLOIOTELUS HOPE

Alloiotelus HOPE, 1841, Rev. Zool., p. 112.

Zonarius LACORDAIRE, 1842, Monogr. Erotylidae, p. 468; CHAPUIS, 1876, in Lacordaire, Gen. Coleoptera, p. 64; GORHAM, 1888, Biol. Centr. Amer., Coleoptera, vol. 7, p. 109; KUHN, 1910, Deutsche Ent. Zeitschr., p. 251; KUHN, 1911, in Junk, Cat. Coleoptera, vol. 15, pt. 34.

Fortunately it is not necessary to propose a new name for the species placed in *Zonarius* since 1842. *Alloiotelus* will replace *Zonarius* in existing catalogues. All the known species occur in tropical America.

EROTYLINA, NEW GENUS

Differs from *Erotylus* in having the tibiae convex above and entirely lacking the three strong longitudinal carinae (see fig. 8). All the species are elongate, about twice as long as wide, and all have three or more

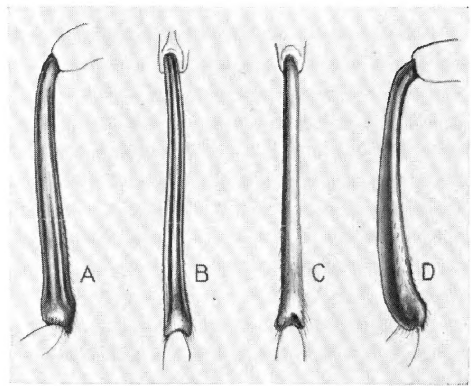


Fig. 8. A, Lateral view of tibia of *Erotylus*; B, dorsal view of tibia of *Erotylus*; C, dorsal view of tibia of *Erotylina*; D, lateral view of tibia of *Erotylina*.

depressions on the upper surface of the prothorax.

GENOTYPE: *Erotylus leopardus* Lacordaire.

I have selected *leopardus* Lacordaire as the type because of the confusion surrounding the identity of *pustulatus* Duponchel. *E. leopardus* is fairly well represented in collections and, although it varies considerably in color, the species is easily recognized.

Erotylina apparently includes all the species in group 8 of Kuhn ("Genera in-

sectorum," fasc. 88), some species from group 6 Kuhnt, and possibly some from other groups. The identification of the described species is quite difficult, and it seems likely that a number of the names apply to color varieties. This, however, can only be determined by comparison of large series.

The following key separates the species before me:

TABLE OF SPECIES

1. Legs wholly black.....8
Femora mostly reddish.....2
2. Thorax black with yellow border (not seen).....*rufipes* Crotch
Thorax reddish or yellowish, with black spots.....3
3. Apex of tibiae broadly reddish.....4
Tibiae wholly blackish.....5
4. Elytra reddish to castaneous, with numerous irregular black spots, the lateral margins usually yellow.....
.....*maculiventris* Lacordaire
Elytra with large, reddish or reddish yellow round spots in more or less distinct lines, the lateral margin reddish.....*dura*, new species
5. Elytra reddish brown, with rather sparse yellow spots and yellow lateral margin.....*multiguttatus* Lacordaire
Elytra black with numerous small pale spots.....6
6. Middle tibiae with an incomplete posterodorsal carina.....
.....*nigrotibialis* Crotch
Middle tibiae without trace of carina.....7
7. Middle segment of antennal club longer than wide..*maculiventris* Lacordaire
Middle segment of antennal club wider than long..*bardia*, new species
8. Elytra with the lateral margin wholly pale.....9
The black markings extend to the lateral margins.....13
9. Elytra with large round yellowish to orange spots that are usually more or less confluent, usually leaving two or three irregular black fasciae, sometimes the black reduced to irregular lines, rarely chiefly black with a few large reddish spots (Mexico).....*leopardus* Lacordaire
- Elytra with very numerous round reddish or yellowish spots (South America).....10
10. Round spots of the elytra yellowish.....*intermedia* Crotch
Round spots of the elytra red.....11
11. The sixth and seventh rows of punctures begin near the humerus....12
This double row of punctures begins behind the basal third of the elytron.....*connectens* Crotch
12. A very strong ridge extends back from the anterior coxae to the posterior edge of the mesosternum.....*brazilianus* Kuhnt
The ridge extends only slightly beyond the coxal cavities.....*pustulatus* Duponchel
13. Elytra with round, more or less confluent reddish or yellowish spots.14
Elytra with wide black or brown fasciae.....16
14. Scutellum reddish..*scutellatus* Kuhnt
Scutellum black.....15
15. Almost always with a wide transverse black band near the middle of the elytra.....*vixen*, new species
With at most very narrow, oblique black bands, the pale reddish spots forming rather regular lines.....*foveatus* Kuhnt
16. Prothorax almost twice as wide as long.....17
Prothorax almost as long as wide...19
17. Elytra luteous, the entire border and two irregular, interrupted, and incomplete fasciae brown.....*buquetii* Lacordaire
Elytra orange and black.....18
18. Elytra with median black band and apex, the apex containing a small orange spot...*bassleri*, new species
Elytra with broad median and pre-apical orange fasciae and two very large, sometimes confluent spots on each near the base.....*scita*, new species
19. Median yellow fascia linear.....*lacordairei* Lacordaire
Median yellow fascia very broad.....*helopoides* Duponchel

***Erotylina rufipes* Crotch**

Erotylus rufipes CROUCH, 1876, Cist. Ent., vol. 1, p. 531.

I have not seen this species, but it may be readily recognized by the black, yellow-bordered prothorax. The elytra are reddish with numerous, irregular black spots. Colombia.

***Erotylina maculiventris* Lacordaire**

Figure 9

Erotylus maculiventris LACORDAIRE, 1842, Monogr. Erotylidae, p. 444.

Varying in color from yellowish red to castaneous, the tarsi and the basal three-

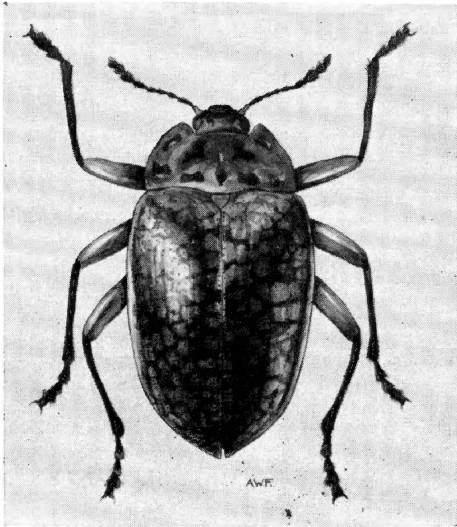


Fig. 9. *Erotylina maculiventris*.

fourths of the tibiae black. In light-colored specimens the lateral margins of the elytra are yellow; in darker ones, luteous or reddish, the pale color sometimes visible only under magnification. The prothorax bears seven to eleven black spots, usually nine, but there is considerable variation in size and shape. In most of my Ecuadorean specimens there is a tendency toward formation of rows of pale spots, particularly along the suture, a tendency less well marked in the Peruvian material, and in some of the specimens many of the black spots are replaced by brown, castaneous, or dark reddish spots. The number of black spots varies enor-

mously, and the pattern is extremely irregular. The elytral punctures are large, toward the suture in rows, otherwise irregularly placed and numerous; the rows are not paired. Length, 13 to 18 mm.

Forty specimens from Panama, Ecuador, Peru, and Brazil. Originally described from Colombia.

***Erotylina bardia*, new species**

Figure 10

Pale orange to brownish red, the sides of the elytra yellow. Length, 14 mm.

Antennae black, the subapical segment conspicuously wider than long, the two

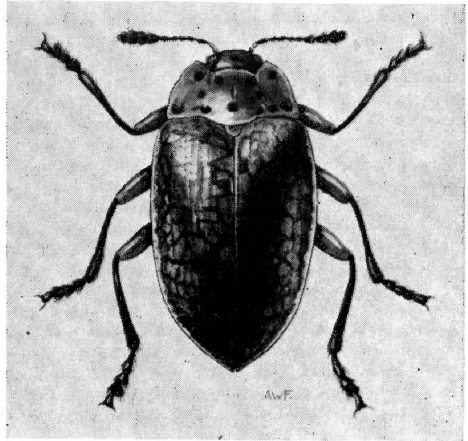


Fig. 10. *Erotylina bardia*.

basal segments reddish. A pair of shallow depressions on the front between the eyes, and behind these a pair of more or less contiguous dark spots. Prothorax with 11 black or brown spots, some of which may be united or obsolete. Middle coxal line short but well marked. Femora reddish, the apices of the tibiae reddish brown, the tibiae and tarsi black. Elytra with black markings, leaving small yellowish or reddish spots that are more or less fused. The punctures are large, abundant, and irregularly distributed, but there are three or four lines of punctures toward the suture.

Types: Two females, holotype and paratype, Rio Abujas, Peru, February, 1929 (H. Bassler).

This species is very similar to *maculiventris* but is a little less convex and distinctly less shining. Neither of the specimens have black spots on the abdomen, but since these are sometimes absent in *maculiventris* the character is of little value, and additional material may show that they may occur in *bardia*. The pale elytral spots are smaller and much more numerous than ordinarily found in *maculiventris* and more inclined to form longitudinal and transverse lines. The length of the pre-apical antennal segment appears to offer the best means of distinguishing the two species.

***Erotylina dura*, new species**

Figure 11

Bright reddish, the elytra brownish red to black, with numerous roundish, reddish to pale reddish spots. Length, 11 to 16 mm.

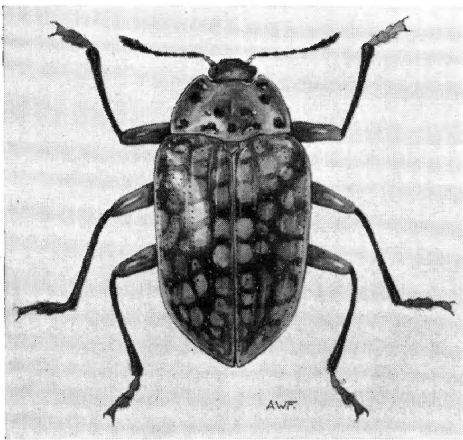


Fig. 11. *Erotylina dura*.

Head reddish, the clypeus, palpi, and basal two antennal segments reddish yellow; antennae blackish or brownish. Thorax with nine black spots above, a basal row of five and an anterior arched row of four, but there is some variation in the size and shape of the spots. Legs reddish, the tibiae black or brown with the apices broadly brownish red, the tarsi black or brown. The elytra are black, brownish, or castaneous with very numer-

ous, moderately large, bright reddish or dark orange spots arranged in more or less regular rows, the lateral margin and epipleura wholly reddish. The punctures are large, in seven rows, the outer six paired, between the rows some scattered punctures, the rows becoming more or less confused posteriorly, and the scattered punctures usually more numerous in front of the middle and near the apical third; there is also a row inside the lateral margin.

In comparison with the other species having reddish femora, *dura* has the elytra more convex and more produced near the middle.

TYPES: Four males and three females from Teffe, Brazil (H. Bassler, and Thayer Expedition) and "Peru." The holotype is from Teffe, the allotype from "Peru." Paratypes in the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy.

***Erotylina multiguttatus* Lacordaire**

Erotylus multiguttatus LACORDAIRE, 1842, Monogr. Erotylidae, p. 441.

A yellow species, the elytra pale brown with moderately numerous roundish yellow spots, the tibiae and tarsi black. The punctures are very large and numerous, the three or four lines near the suture arranged in rows. The middle tibiae have a postero-dorsal carina. The prothorax has three rows of blackish spots, five in the basal row, and four in each of the others, but the outer spots in the median row are small and are, perhaps, sometimes absent.

One specimen, upper Rio Marañón, Peru, April 3, 1929 (H. Bassler). Originally described from Bolivia and recorded from Paraguay.

The identification is somewhat doubtful, since Lacordaire described the thorax as having numerous brown spots. The specimen agrees in other respects.

***Erotylina nigrotibialis* Crotch**

Erotylus nigrotibialis CROTCH, 1876, Cist. Ent., vol. 1, p. 535.

This species agrees in almost all respects with the preceding one, but the color is reddish and the dorsal spots black and less extensive, so that the reddish spots run more or less together.

One specimen, middle Rio Ucayali, Peru, December 1, 1923 (H. Bassler).

I suspect that this specimen and the one placed under *multiguttatus* are color phases of the same species, but it is impossible to decide with the material at hand. They look very different, but since there is a great deal of variation in related species the possibility of their being the same must not be overlooked. There is little doubt about this being *negrotibialis*, although the original description is very poor.

Erotylina leopardus Lacordaire

Figure 12

Erotylus leopardus LACORDAIRE, 1842, Monogr. Erotylidae, p. 442.

Erotylus confluens CROTCH, 1876, Cist. Ent., vol. 1, p. 531.

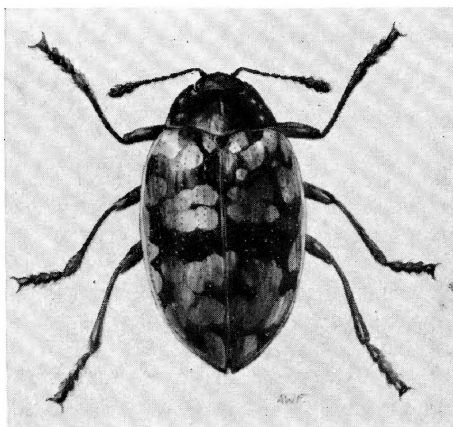


Fig. 12. *Erotylina leopardus*.

Black, the elytra black and dull reddish to yellow or reddish with black markings. The pale spots are large, more or less confluent, typically with three or four black fasciae, but any of the black bands may be obsolete, and sometimes there are only irregular transverse spots on reddish ground (*confluens*), but the lateral margin is always wholly pale. In one specimen from Jalapa, Mexico, the red is very greatly reduced, there being nine orange spots on one elytron and 11 on the other. At first glance it looks entirely different from *leopardus*, but it is only a very dark specimen. Length, 12 to 17 mm.

More than 40 specimens from Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Costa Rica.

Erotylina nicaraguae Crotch

Erotylus nicaraguae CROTCH, 1869, Cist. Ent., vol. 1, p. 148.

This species is similar to the variety *confluens* but is yellowish with the lateral margins of the elytra mostly reddish. I have not seen anything agreeing with the description but believe that it is merely a color variation of *leopardus*.

Erotylina connectens Crotch

Figure 13

Erotylus connectens CROTCH, 1876, Cist. Ent., vol. 1, p. 531.

Shining black, the elytra pale reddish with irregular black markings, leaving

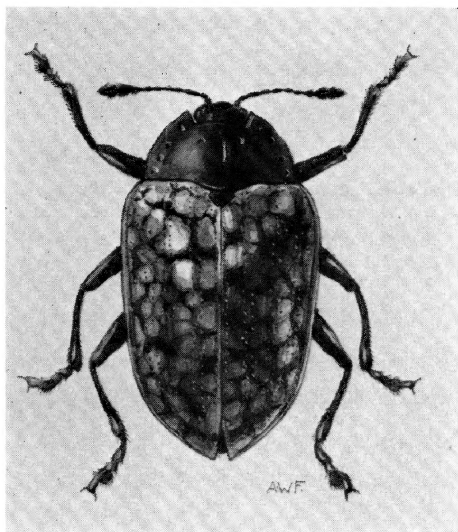


Fig. 13. *Erotylina connectens*.

numerous, moderately small, subconfluent reddish spots, the epipleura wholly reddish. This form agrees very well with *pustulatus* Duponchel, but the reddish spots are slightly larger than is usual in that species, and the sixth and seventh rows of punctures begin behind the basal third of the elytra instead of near the humeri. The front tibiae of the male are scarcely swollen at the apex.

One male, Rio Caiary Uaupes, Ama-

zonas, Brazil, 1906 (H. Schmidt). Crotch described the species from Brazil, probably from the Amazon.

***Erotylina intermedia* Crotch**

Erotylus intermedia CROTCH, 1876, Cist. Ent., vol. 1, p. 531.

Blackish brown, the head with a dark spot, the thorax with seven or nine darker spots; elytra yellow with black and brown markings, leaving moderately small semi-confluent round spots not forming rows.

Two specimens, Anapolis, Goyas, Brazil. Crotch described the species from Venezuela.

The pale spots are larger than is usual in *pustulatus*, but there is no other difference, and I believe that *intermedia* was based on a teneral specimen or one that had been in alcohol, as is true of the specimens before me. However, it is impossible to identify *intermedia* from the description, and my specimens may not be the same.

***Erotylina pustulatus* Duponchel**

Erotylus pustulatus DUPONCHEL, 1824, Mem. Mus. Hist. Nat., Paris, vol. 12, p. 39, fig. 8.

Erotylus jaspideus ERICHSON, 1847, Arch. Naturgesch., vol. 13, p. 176; KUHN, Genera Insectorum, fasc. 88, tab. 2, fig. 12.

Erotylus jaspideus minor KUHN, 1908, Deutsche Ent. Zeitschr., p. 95.

Black, the elytra with reddish to dark reddish round spots that are usually small but very numerous so that they are mostly reddish in color. The punctures are in paired rows, rather large, and there are usually a number of scattered punctures between the rows. The two outer paired rows begin near the humeri; all are obsolete at the posterior fourth. The front tibiae of the male are gently swollen, but this character is not nearly so conspicuous as in *maculatus*. The prosternal lines are obsolete posteriorly.

There are specimens before me from Rio de Janeiro and Santa Catharina in Brazil and several localities in Peru.

E. pustulatus was originally described from Brazil and was misidentified by Lacordaire, who described a quite different species from Surinam under this name. He has been followed by all other students up to the present time, but reference to

Duponchel's figure leaves no room for doubt about the species before him. His specimens possibly came from Rio de Janeiro. *E. jaspideus* was described from Peru, and the series before me looks slightly different from the Brazilian specimens, but I can find no way to separate them. The size ranges from 11.5 to 15 mm. The variety *minor* Kuhn is only a small specimen and does not deserve recognition.

***Erotylina brazilianus* Kuhn**

Erotylus jaspideus brazilianus KUHN, 1908, Deutsche Ent. Zeitschr., p. 96.

Entirely like *pustulatus*, but the coxal lines of the prosternum are very strong and extend to the posterior margin. The elytra are said by Kuhn to be more tapering, which seems to be the case in the three specimens (from Goyas, Brazil) before me. One of the specimens is very dark with the reddish spots obscure dorsally. Three specimens from Villeta, Paraguay, are moderately dark but do not differ from the Brazilian specimens in other respects.

Despite the differences enumerated, I believe that this form should be placed as a synonym of *pustulatus* and am inclined to believe that *intermedia* and *connectens* are in the same category. The difference in shape is not impressive, and the series of *pustulatus* shows some difference in this respect. I do not know how much value can be placed upon the prosternal lines but suspect that they vary considerably. It seems likely that large series will connect these four forms, and possibly *dichromostigma* Guerin.

***Erotylina foveatus* Kuhn**

Figure 14

Erotylus foveatus KUHN, 1908, Deutsche Ent. Zeitschr., p. 95.

Erotylus pustulatus LACORDAIRE, 1842, Monogr. Erotylidae, p. 437 (not Duponchel).

Black, the elytra with large roundish or irregular reddish spots arranged more or less in longitudinal rows, the epipleura black and reddish. The black may form oblique bands, but these are somewhat irregular, and a series might show this arrangement to be of no value in distinguishing the species. The front tibiae of

the male are less swollen apically and less concave before the apex than in the following species.

Two specimens from Surinam, the type locality.

This species resembles *pustulatus* but has the reddish spots larger and the punctures larger and not in regular paired rows, although they are not very numerous except laterally near the posterior fourth. This is undoubtedly the species identified by Lacordaire as *pustulatus*, but it is proba-

that there is a swelling on the scutellum. This latter is present in some specimens of other species. This species, if I have correctly identified it, is very close to that which has generally been identified as *pustulatus*, but it is somewhat less shining and of a brick-red color.

I have two specimens from Colombia, but only one of them fits the above description. The other has the prosternum as in the following species and has the scutellum black, but there is no other difference and I

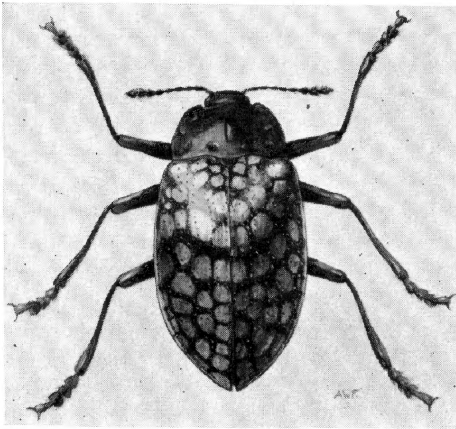


Fig. 14. *Erotylina foveatus*.

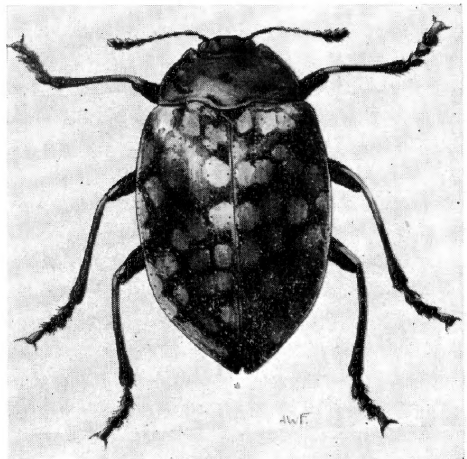


Fig. 15. *Erotylina scutellatus*.

bly not the same as that so identified by other authors. I believe it is distinct from any described species, but some specimens may be difficult to separate from the following species.

Erotylina scutellatus Kuhnt

Figure 15

Erotylus scutellatus KUHN, 1908, Deutsche Ent. Zeitschr., p. 97.

Black, the elytra with large, roundish, reddish spots and with large punctures, those on the inner half in more or less regular paired lines, the elytra with or without a broad median band devoid of reddish spots; scutellum reddish. The coxal lines on the prosternum extend strongly to the posterior margin.

Kuhnt described the species from Colombia, basing it chiefly on the reddish scutellum. This character seems to be of little importance, and the same is true of the fact

believe that they belong together. However, both are females and it is possible that males might have some structural difference.

Erotylina vixen, new species

Erotylus pustulatus Auct.

Shining black, the elytra with numerous large, orange red spots that usually leave a broad, median, black fascia, the apex sometimes broadly black, the epipleura black and red. The lines on the prosternum are obsolete posteriorly, and the large punctures are in rows on the inner half, irregularly placed toward the sides. In some specimens there may be six irregular rows of more or less paired lines of punctures, but usually only the inner two or four rows are distinct, and even these are sometimes slightly confused owing to the presence of scattered punctures.

Eleven specimens from Teffe, Brazil (H. Bassler). Holotype, male, October 24, allotype, female, November 24.

Further collecting may show that this is the same as the species described by Kuhnt as *scutellatus*, but since it is not possible to be certain of the identity of his species and since he considered this to be *pustulatus*, it seems advisable to give it a name for the present. However, I suspect that this and the two preceding are forms of one species and that they will be found to intergrade.

***Erotylina bassleri*, new species**

Figure 16

Moderately shining black, the elytra pale orange with base, median fascia, and the apex black. Length, 17 mm.; width, 9 mm.

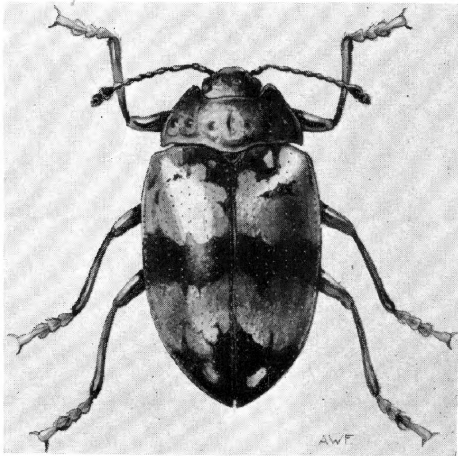


Fig. 16. *Erotylina bassleri*.

MALE: Prothorax almost twice as wide as long, the sides strongly convex, the depressions deep, numerous small punctures and a few large, scattered ones on the disk. Anterior tibiae moderately swollen at apex. Elytra dull orange with a greatly abbreviated basal black band that is very broadly separated from the lateral margins and contains two pale spots on each side of the suture: these pale spots may form the irregular posterior border of the basal band, and there may be one or two black spots on the pale ground; median black

band of moderate width, somewhat irregular, with two or three weak anterior projections and a single, narrow posterior one; apical fourth black with a small pale spot. Punctures large and mostly irregularly placed, but the inner paired rows are moderately distinct. Epipleura brown in the middle and apically.

HOLOTYPE: Male, middle Rio Ucayali, Peru, February 12, 1928 (H. Bassler).

The elytral punctures are quite visible to the naked eye. This species seems to be related to *cornaliae* Guérin, but I have not found a specimen that agrees with the description. In my specimen there is a transverse row of faint black spots running across the second pale fascia on one elytron and partly across the other.

Erotylus cornaliae and *E. glaber* Kuhnt, which is probably a synonym, may belong to *Erotylina* but this can only be determined by examination of correctly identified material.

***Erotylina scita*, new species**

Figure 17

Moderately shining black, the elytra each with a broad median fascia, two very

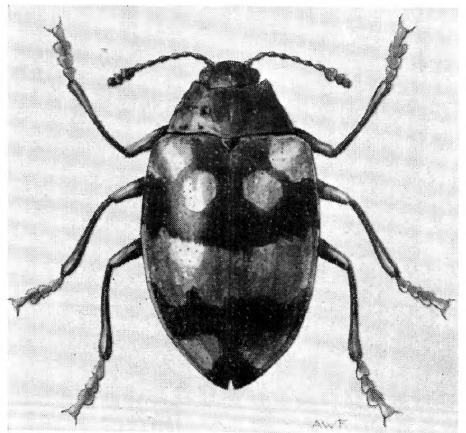


Fig. 17. *Erotylina scita*.

large basal spots and very large preapical spot dull orange. Length, about 18 mm.; width, 9 mm.

FEMALE: Thorax very much broader than long, the depressions moderately

deep, the sides moderately narrowing in front, gently sinuate, but rather straight; numerous small but no large punctures. Front tibiae simple. Each elytron has an extremely large pale spot on the humeral angles and a smaller one obliquely behind it toward the suture; the very broad median pale fascia is very narrowly interrupted at the suture and is shallowly indented toward the side anteriorly and near the middle posteriorly, otherwise rather regular, but gently broadened laterally; the pre-apical spots form a broad, interrupted fascia. The punctures are large, those on the inner half in paired rows, the outer ones confused but quite sparse toward the lateral margin. The epipleura is black and orange, the pale bands all extending over the lateral margins.

TYPES: Holotype, female, Zamora, Ecuador; paratype, Ecuador, received from Mr. L. Lacey.

The type specimen lacks its head but is otherwise in very good condition. I know of no species that approaches it in color. The punctures are easily visible to the naked eye. In the second specimen, which is undoubtedly conspecific, the color is bright orange, and it is larger; the two anterior elytral spots are partly connected and the median orange band is considerably broader.

Erotylina helopioides Duponchel

Erotylus helopioides DUPONCHEL, 1825, Mem. Mus. Hist. Nat., Paris, vol. 12, p. 40, fig. 11; LACORDAIRE, 1842, Monogr. Erotylidae, p. 447; KUHN, 1908, Deutsch Ent. Zeitschr., p. 92.

Shining black, the pronotum dull and almost as long as wide, the depressions shallow. Elytra with a rather broad, dentate sub-basal pale fascia containing a number of black spots and united with the median fascia outside the middle of each elytron, the median fascia broad and with black spots laterally; at the apical third with another broad, dentate, pale fascia that has two black projections in front and a long one behind. Length, 15 to 16.5 mm.

Three specimens from Brazil.

Two of the specimens have the pale elytral markings orange, but in the third they are yellow and there is, in this specimen, a reddish spot on the disk of the prothorax. The elytra are without punctures.

Erotylina lacordairei Lacordaire

Figure 18

Erotylus lacordairei LACORDAIRE, 1842, Monogr. Erotylidae, p. 446.

This has been placed as a synonym of *helopioides* by Kuhn, probably correctly so. It differs in having the second and

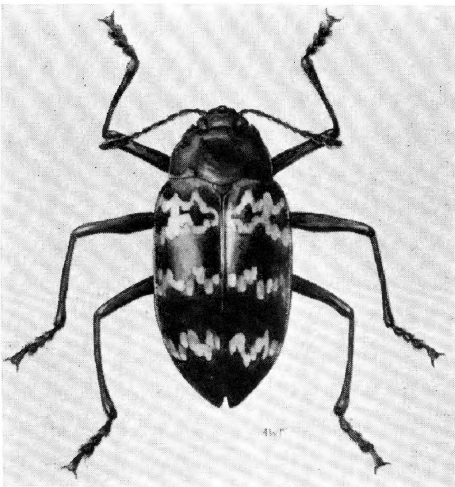


Fig. 18. *Erotylina lacordairei*.

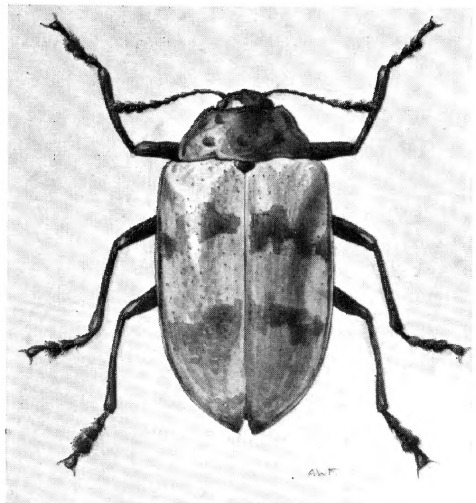


Fig. 19. *Erotylina buquetii*.

third yellow fasciae very narrow and strongly dentate. In the two specimens before me, from southeastern Brazil, the markings are yellow.

***Erotylina buquetii* Lacordaire**

Figure 19

Erotylus buquetii LACORDAIRE, 1842, Monogr. Erotylidae, p. 445.

Black, the elytra luteous or dull yellow-

ish, each with two brownish or blackish fasciae, one near the basal third, the other near the apical third. The fasciae are irregular and are actually composed of two spots, the outer one situated behind the inner but usually touching it in front; the dark markings are narrowly separated from the suture and the lateral margin.

Two specimens from Santa Catharina, Brazil.